Approved For Release 2901/03/05 **C14/RDP82-00457R000700100007-0

CONFIDENTIAL

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

25X1A

DATE:

DIST.

25X10

INFO.

July 1947

PAGES

SUPPLEMENT

COUNTRY

Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT

Conflict Within the SED

ORIGIN

25X1A

1. This report consists of the digest of a letter written on 24 February 1947 by Poralla, Chairman of the Central Shop Groups' executive for Railroads (Vorsitzender der Zentralen Betriebegruppenleitung "Eisenbahn") and addressed to the SED Kreis Executive Committee (Kreisvorstand), Auropahaus, Leipzig Cl. In this letter Foralla complains of disunity in the ranks of the SED railroad officialdom. He condemns both the former SPD functionaries who consider themselves the sole arbiters of SED policy and the former KPD functionaries who waste their energies in slandering and otherwise underhandedly attacking party officials. Poralla states that these intra-party brawlers are not above threatening their enemies with arrest - and this in the presence of SED functionaries who were hitherto unaware of the inner tensions.

2. Poralla affirms his belief that the eternal sniping at the former SPD officials Olkers (President of Reichsbahn Directorate Halle), Kellner (adviser on personnel matters), Zauske (railroad divisional chairman), Braunlich (industrial trade union chairman), Fritsche, Jäger, and Mattick (members of main or district shop committees) is part of a concerted attempt to discredit these men because of their former political affiliations.

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Document No. NO CHANGE in Class. DECLASSIFIED Class. CHANGED TO: TS DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77 Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763

Date: & Mar >8 By: O

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